

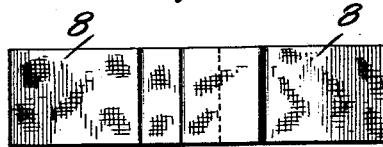
Dec. 28, 1926.

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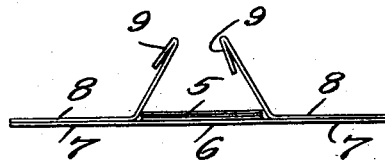
E. E. DICKSON  
SURGICAL DRESSING

Filed Dec. 29, 1925

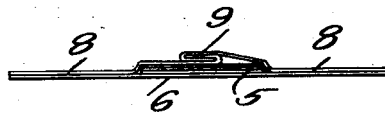
*Fig. 1.*



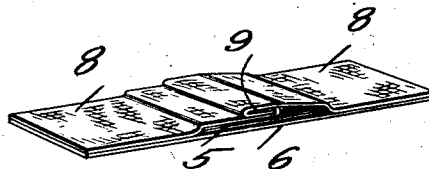
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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## SURGICAL DRESSING.

Application filed December 29, 1925. Serial No. 78,131.

My invention relates to surgical dressings mainly intended for application to cuts and other injuries of a minor character and of the type embodying a gauze or equivalent pad or compress which is positioned relative to the part to be dressed by an adhesive strip or plaster. A usual adjunct of the dressing is a face cloth which serves the dual office of shielding the pad until required for service so as to keep it clean and sterile and of preventing promiscuous sticking of the plaster. When emergency arises for use of the dressing the facing cloth is of course removed and this is accomplished generally with difficulty and with casual contact with the pad, resulting in infection, thus nullifying the precautionary steps taken in the manufacture and packing of the article.

The nature of my invention consists in providing a partible interlocking facing element which will efficiently perform the dual office stated and yet, in emergency, be detached readily and without liability of impairing the sterility of the pad.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a faced band dressing.

Fig. 2 is an edge view with the facing components in open or unlocked relation.

Fig. 3 is an edge view with the facing elements interlocked.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view, likewise showing the facing elements interlocked.

In practising my invention, a pad or compress 5 of gauze or other appropriate material is applied to the adhesive side of a strip or band 6 of adhesive plaster in such way as to leave margins 7 of the latter free for service in securing the pad to place with relation to the part to be dressed. In the drawing the pad is arranged medially of the plaster and, obviously, it is retained by the adhesive element thereof.

As a coverage for the pad and the adhesive side of the plaster I provide endwise

opposed facing elements 8 each of which is of a length and width to cover the respective plaster margins and also overlies the pad. Elements 8 may be made of any fabric suitable for the purpose. For example, crinoline has given satisfaction. A fabric of that nature has sufficient body stiffness to cause its free ends to assume substantially the position shown in Fig. 2 and also to enable it to be edge formed for interlocking purposes. Accordingly I provide the proximate edges of the facing elements with reverse flanges 9 in order to interlock them, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, so as to effectually shield the underlying pad or compress. The flanges are not only useful for interlocking purposes but may also be availed of as pulls or grips when the facing elements are to be removed.

The merit and importance of the invention will be appreciated when it is realized that in the ordinary household it is not uncommon, owing to the difficulty of lifting the facing at its margin, to insert the finger or a knife or other implement below the unsecured portion of the facing thus contaminating the pad and making for infection. With the tabs or pulls afforded by the interlocking facing elements of my invention that menace is obviated.

Having described my invention I claim:—

A surgical dressing embodying a strip of adhesive tape, a soft dressing offset with relation to the tape, and means to insure sterility of the dressing comprising complementary facing strips in adhering relation to exposed portions of the tape and of body stiffness sufficient to spring them away from the dressing, said facing strips having their proximate ends formed with interlocking elements whereby they are retained in flat coverage relation with respect to the dressing.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ENSIGN EARLE DICKSON.